## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## Office of the Attorney General



## JONATHAN SKRMETTI ATTORNEY GENERAL AND REPORTER

P.O. BOX 20207, NASHVILLE, TN 37202 TELEPHONE (615)741-3491 FACSIMILE (615)741-2009

May 3, 2024

## **VIA EMAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL**

Heather Moore Collins
Ashley Walter
HMC Civil Rights Law, PLLC
7000 Executive Cetner Dr. Suite 320
Brentwood, TN 37027
heather@hmccivilrights.com
ashley@hmccivilrights.com

RE: *B.P.*, *et al.*, *v. City of Johnson City, TN, et al.*, No. 2:23-cv-00071 (E.D. Tenn) Subpoena to District Attorney General Steven Finney

Dear Ms. Collins and Ms. Walter:

I represent non-party District Attorney General Steven Finney regarding a subpoena you have issued for him to appear and testify in the above-referenced matter on July 17, 2024. Respectfully, General Finney objects to the subpoena under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b), 45(d). Any information General Finney has about ongoing criminal investigations is protected under law enforcement privilege and the deliberative process privilege. *United States v. Se. Eye Specialists, PLLC*, 586 F. Supp. 3d 787, 793 (M.D. Tenn. 2022).

Further, a testimonial subpoena to a district attorney general may not be used to circumvent the protections of criminal investigative files. *See The Tennessean v. Metro Gov't of Nashville of Davidson Cnty*, 485 S.W.3d 857 (Tenn. 2016); *see also Sutton v. State*, No. 03C01-9702-CR-00067, 1999 WL 423005, at \*6 (Tenn. Crim. App. June 25, 1999); Tenn. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 18-07 (Mar. 8, 2018). Finally, any information General Finney has about ongoing criminal investigations and/or victims of sexual assault is confidential. *Johnson v. CoreCivic, Inc.*, No. 18-CV-01051-STA-TMP, 2019 WL 2158239, at \*2 n.2 (W.D. Tenn. Apr. 3, 2019).

Sincerely,		
s/Liz Evan	 	

ELIZABETH EVAN (BPR 37770)

Assistant Attorney General Law Enforcement and Special Prosecutions Division Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 20207 Nashville, TN 37202-0207

Phone: (615) 532-1600 Liz.Evan@ag.tn.gov

cc:

Elizabeth A. Kramer & Kevin M. Osborne Erickson Kramer Osborne, LLP 44 Tehama Street San Francisco, CA 94105 elizabeth@eko.law kevin@eko.law (415) 635-0631

Vanessa Baehr-Jones Advocates for Survivors of Abuse 4200 Park Blvd. No. 413 Oakland, CA94602 vanessa@advocatesforsurvivors.com